

◀ CLEEVE CLARION ▶

No. 71 19th March 2019 — 20th May 2019

Newsletter of Bishop's Cleeve U3A



MONTHLY MEETINGS

At Woodmancote Village Hall on 3rd MONDAYS, at 2.15 pm.
We welcome visitors interested in joining Bishop's Cleeve U3A.

Monday 15th April 2019

Peter Berry

“Travel - Cuba and Ukraine – Communist Comparisons”

Monday 20th May 2019

Mark Gale

Chief Executive, Gloucestershire Gateway Trust

Admission 50p

Refreshments served after the presentation until 4pm

Chairman's Clarion Call

March 2019

We have recently held our annual Group Leaders' meeting, at which there was an encouragingly good turnout. I brought the meeting up to date on current issues that the committee is addressing – the change in the timing of the Showcase meeting and the reasons for migrating to a new website on Site Builder. In her usual efficient way, our webmaster, Jenny Mackelworth, has already done much of the work in copying and pasting from our existing website, but we intend to offer “bells and whistles” that are not possible on the existing website without a vast investment of time. As with Beacon, we intend to offer thorough training to members on the new website, as and when it is fully developed and we get the green light from the Site Builder team to proceed.

We have also recently held a New Members' meeting, at which we hoped to bring any recent members who have joined since the last such meeting up to speed with the rapidly expanding world of the U3A movement. Sadly the turnout was a little disappointing, as many of those who had committed to attending, did not do so. However those who did come were able to learn something of our history, the range of our activities and our position in the wider U3A movement (currently at 1,039 local U3A's nationally).

Some committee members will shortly be attending the Cotswold Link's AGM and Half Yearly Seminar, at which the guest speaker will be Fran Walton from the National Office, who will be giving an update on changes to the Resource Centre.

From the committee Philip Watson will be attending a local meeting of a U3A National Workshop on “Keeping Things Legal”, a subject on which we have to remain constantly vigilant. No decision has yet been made on whether anyone attends the National Conference and AGM in August.

I cannot close without mentioning the recent sad death of Barrie Hall, our erstwhile chairman, treasurer and Clarion Editor. There is a separate tribute to him below, but I wanted to express my personal condolences to Joan and her family, on behalf of the many members who will remember Barrie with great affection.

Keith Woodman

A TRIBUTE TO BARRIE HALL - who died on February 10th

Barrie made a huge contribution to our Bishop's Cleeve U3A group from the start.

He was the editor of the Clarion, from the first one in July 2008 until July 2014. He included an "Editor's note" page in each publication, ending with a humorous P.S. quote - mostly to do with ageing, e.g. "You know you're getting older when everything hurts, and what doesn't hurt doesn't work!"

He was chairman from January 2009 - November 2011, as well as being the treasurer from January 2009 - November 2010.

He co-ordinated and hosted the I.T. group from March 2008 until recently, as well as hosting the Photography group for many years.

He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Joan and their family in their loss.

Rosemary Pullin

A Service of Celebration and Thanks for Barrie's life will be held at
St. Mary Magdalene Church, Boddington, Glos. GL51 0TJ
on Friday, March 22nd at 2.30 pm.

(Joan has requested a dress code of bright colours, rather than plain black—
and has invited everyone to go back to her house after the service.)

No flowers, but donations to either Cheltenham & District Samaritans
or Alzheimer's Research UK would be welcome.

WE WELCOME THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS TO OUR U3A

Nicola Christie ; Michael & Jennifer Crowston
Alan & Patricia Davies ; Martyn Fell ; Peter Greenhill
Helen Lewis ; Sheila Lunn ; Howard & Jennifer Masters
Royston Pearce ; Alan Richards ; Robert & Sylvia Sims
Ted Smith ; Helen Webley

NEW YEAR LUNCH on 28th JANUARY 2019

86 people were booked in for the New Year lunch at the hotel and enjoyed by all, especially as we were again lunching in the Cotswold Suite and able to share the wonderful views across the countryside.



As ever, we were warmly greeted by the staff and the seating plan made life easier for all of us. It offered the opportunity to meet new members and relax with old friends. Just what U3A is all about.

The service was excellent, the food was delicious: I ate far more than I should have done. Now and again, I took the time to look up from chatting and eating to gaze around the room which was alive with conversation and merriment.



I thank everyone who took the time to express their enjoyment of the afternoon.

Monica Wragg

GROUP NEWS

March

Archaeology group

At last it appears that this proposed new group maybe getting off the ground – 7 potential members are meeting to discuss details on March 13th.

Film Club 3

This recently proposed new group has to date received interest from one member only. Please contact me if you feel this could be a group for you.

Mahjong group

Anne Lawrie has stepped down from her position as joint group leader with Jean Tipper. Tera Gardner has replaced Anne with immediate effect.

Group leaders' meeting

On February 14th the group leaders meeting was well attended. From a total of fifty groups forty were represented and several diverse issues and questions were discussed. It was announced that in future there will be no charge for refreshments at Open meetings.

Gardening Group 1

Linda Coole, leader of this successful group for many years has now stepped down and the group has been renamed. A new format has been adopted which I hope will enable the group to survive as no-one came forward to take over from Linda.

11 enthusiastic members have now volunteered to arrange visits to gardens and car sharing will be organised for these visits. A programme for the year is to be agreed following a meeting to discuss all the various options. Sheila Gardner will be the point of contact for the initial twelve months. The new name will be “**Garden visits group**”.

Gardening Group 2—Practical Gardening

This group will in future be named “**Gardening group**”.

Vivien Paxford

WOODMANCOTE VILLAGE HALL OPEN MEETING SEATING

- see **page 21**

MESSAGE from Secretary, Sally Ferrers - see **page 22**

GROUPS' INFORMATION

ART APPRECIATION

Contact: **BRENDA BENTLEY** (676632) e-mail address available

This group usually meets on the 3rd TUESDAY from 2 - 4 pm at the new Stoke Orchard Community Hall. We will be looking at the Post Impressionist Pierre Bonnard in April and the pop-artist Bridget Riley in May.

We vary artists each month and welcome members suggestions. We have recently looked at Turner, Mantegna & Giotto

◆ **MARCH 19 ; APRIL 16 ; MAY 21**

ART — PAINTING AND DRAWING

Joint Contacts: **TONY JORDAN** (677356) e-mail address available

SHAUN CULLIMORE (517991) e-mail address available

This group meets on the 1st and 3rd WEDNESDAY of each month at the Woodmancote Small Village Hall from 2 — 4 pm.

◆ **MARCH 20 ; APRIL 3 ; APRIL 17 ; MAY 1 ; MAY 15**

This group is now full—but if anyone is interested in joining a waiting list, please contact Shaun.

ARTS AND CRAFTS 1 - CRAFTY CRAFTERS

Contact: **PAM LEVERMORE** (678276) e-mail address available

Meets 3rd WEDNESDAY from 10 am — 12 noon in the Woodmancote Small Village Hall. We now have a full group of 12 members.

◆ **MARCH 20 ; APRIL 17 ; MAY 15**

ARTS AND CRAFTS 2

Contact: **SUE BRISK** (674006) e-mail address available

Meets on 1st and 3rd WEDNESDAY, usually in Sue's home, from 10—12 noon
New members welcome. Please contact Sue for details.

◆ **MARCH 20 ; APRIL 3 ; APRIL 17 ; MAY 1 ; MAY 15**

BOOK CIRCLE 1

Contact: **VI FAIRMANER** (673504) e-mail address available

Meet 1st WEDNESDAY at 2 pm in members' homes. Membership closed.

◆ **APRIL 3** "A Long Way From Home" by Peter Carey.

Presented by Monica.

◆ **MAY 1** "On the Black Hill" by Bruce Chatwin

Presented by Hilary.

BOOK CIRCLE 2

Contact: **STELLA CANEY** (676143) e-mail address available

Deputy: **EILISH TALBOT**

Meets 3rd THURSDAY at 10 am in members' homes. Membership closed.

◆ **MARCH 21** "Straight on Till Morning, The Biography of Beryl Markham"

– by Mary S. Lovell

OR "Circling the Sun" by Paula McLain

Host: Helen

Presented by Julia

Followed by - Lunch at the Rising Sun

◆ **APRIL 19** "Crazy Rich Asians" - by Kevin Kwan

Host: Jenny

Presented by Pam

◆ **MAY 16** "The Gustav Sonata" - by Rose Tremaine

Host: Rosemary

Presented by Stella

BOOK CIRCLE 3 - BOOKWORMS

Contact: **ROS FLAXMAN** (674284) e-mail address available

This group usually meets on the 4th WEDNESDAY from 1.30 pm.

Venue: Lowry's Café, Tarlings Yard, Bishops Cleeve. This group is now full.

◆ **MARCH 27 ; APRIL 24 ; MAY 22**

BOOK CIRCLE 4 - BOOK BORROWERS

Contact: **MARGUERITE HABGOOD** (678973)

e-mail address available

Deputies: **PEGGY LIGHTFOOT** (679098)

e-mail address available

LIZ TURNER (699918)

e-mail address available

This group will meet on the 4th WEDNESDAY at 2 pm in members' homes.

◆ **MARCH 27 ; APRIL 24 ; MAY 22**

BRIDGE 1 - SOCIAL BRIDGE

Contact: **DAVE ATKINSON** (674169) e-mail address available

This group will meet on the 1st and 3rd TUESDAY, and the last MONDAY of each month, from 2.30 — 5.30 pm at a member's home. Group closed.

◆ **MAR 19 ; MAR 25 ; APR 2 ; APR 16 ; APR 30 ; MAY 7 ; MAY 21**

BRIDGE 2 - BRIDGE

Contact: **SUE BRISK** (674006) e-mail address available

This group will meet on the 2nd and 4th MONDAY each month from 10.15 am — 12.15 pm, at Sue's house.

◆ **MARCH 25 ; APRIL 8 ; APRIL 22 ; MAY 13 ; MAY 27.**

CINEMA GROUP

Contact: **ANN KING** (698497) e-mail address available

Deputy: **SALLY FERRERS** (679551) e-mail address available

This group will meet on an ad hoc basis to see the latest release films at local cinemas.

COMPUTER BUDDY

Contact: **JENNY MACKELWORTH** (602286) e-mail address available

Jenny is willing to help people with advice on using their computer/laptop/tablet and how to resolve simple problems.

COUNTRY DANCING

Contact: **SUE WEIR** (673544) e-mail address available

Deputy: **CELIA GORDON-SMITH** (677195) e-mail address available

This group will meet on the 2nd MONDAY each month from 2 - 4 pm in the Woodmancote Large Village Hall.

◆ **APRIL 8 ; MAY 13**

ECONOMICS * New dates**

Contact: **TIM POWELL** (676919) e-mail address available

Group will be meeting **every 3 weeks** at 10.30am on WEDNESDAYS at Tim's house. This group is now full.

FAMILY HISTORY

Joint Contacts: **WENDY STOW** (701303) e-mail address available

DON ANDREWS (674412) e-mail address available

This group will have ad hoc meetings from 10—12 noon. Please contact Wendy or Don for details of dates and venues.

FILM CLUB 1

Contact: **SALLY FERRERS** (679551) e-mail address available

This group meets on the 1st TUESDAY of each month at 2 pm.

This group is full.

◆ **APRIL 2 ; MAY 7**

FILM CLUB 2

Contact: **ALAN HAZELL** (461371) e-mail address available

Deputy: **KAY DUCK** (672474) e-mail address available

This group meets on the 2nd WEDNESDAY of each month at 2 pm, in a member's home. This group is full.

◆ **APRIL 10 ; MAY 8**

FOLK BAND *** New Venue

Contact: **JOHN BECK** (672070) e-mail address available

Deputy: **JENNY FARREN** (321266) e-mail address available

This group meets on the 2nd THURSDAY of the month from 2.30 — 4.30 pm.

From slender beginnings we have now built up to a group size that has meant a re-location to **Bishop's Cleve Methodist Church Hall**, Bishop's Close. We play some thirty songs which include Irish, Scottish, American as well as English tunes. We aim to increase our repertoire of songs by adding one or two new ones each month.

We welcome anyone who would enjoy making music with us.

Please contact John for more information

◆ **APRIL 11 ; MAY 9**

FRENCH CONVERSATION

Contact: **MARIE BRAIN** (674121) e-mail address available

Deputy: **HILARY WRIGHT** (672318) e-mail address available

The group continues to enjoy fortnightly meetings, usually at Marie's.

This group is now full.

GARDEN VISITS * New Name & Leader**

Reports—see pages 17,18

Contact: **SHEILA GARDNER** (236885)

e-mail address available

Deputy: **EILISH TALBOT**

◆ **APRIL 3** Spetchley Park Gardens

◆ **APRIL 28** Blockley Gardens

Car share to each of these. Details will be sent to members nearer the time.

GARDENING * New Name**

Contact: **JANET DAVIS** (674068)

e-mail address available

Deputy: **ANNE KINGSTON** (575086)

e-mail address available

This group meets on the 4th TUESDAY of each month at 10.30 am in members' homes. This group is now full.

◆ **MARCH 26 ; APRIL 23 ; MAY 28**

GENERAL HISTORY * New Deputy**

Reports - see page 19,20

Contact: **NEVILLE JACKSON** (678215)

e-mail address available

Deputy: **ANN LEWIS** (702573)

e-mail address available

This group meets monthly on the 2nd TUESDAY in the Meeting Room at the Tithe Barn (Bishop's Cleeve) from 2.00 - 3.30 pm. New members welcome.

◆ **APRIL 9** "Bristol Channel Smugglers & Wreckers" (Part 1)

Anthony Howlett & Neville Jackson recount maritime tales of dark deeds and greed.

◆ **MAY 14** "Never Such Innocence Again" The Great War & Memory.

Clive Boyd reflects on how experiences of this conflict have become etched into our collective consciousness through recollection, memorials and social, cultural and political legacy.

We mainly research and present our own topics — but if you only want to join to listen, you are still welcome.

GERMAN CONVERSATION

Contact: **CAROL HARRIS** (602872)

e-mail address available

This group is for members who have a basic knowledge of German.

Meets twice a month usually on the 2nd and 4th MONDAYS, 10.00 — 11.30 am at members' homes.

I.T. GROUP

Contact: **ED REILLY** (674253) e-mail address available

Group meets on the 4th THURSDAY in a member's home at 2 pm.

The aim is to share expertise and experiences and offer mutual assistance.

◆ **MARCH 28 ; APRIL 25** This group is now full.

KNIT & NATTER

Contact: **VANESSA REYNOLDS** (675748) e-mail address available

Meets on the 3rd TUESDAY of the month at 10.0 am in Vanessa's home.

◆ **MARCH 19 ; APRIL 16 ; MAY 21**

LATIN

Contact: **CELIA GORDON-SMITH** (677195) e-mail address available

This group meets on the 2nd THURSDAY of the month at Celia's house from 10.00 - 12.00.

This group is now closed to beginners.

◆ **APRIL 11 ; MAY 9**

LOCAL HISTORY 1

Contact: **DENIS FAIRMANER** (673504) e-mail address available

The group meets on the 2nd THURSDAY of the month at 2 pm.

◆ **APRIL 11 ; MAY 9** Membership currently full.

LOCAL HISTORY 2

Report—see page 17

Joint Contacts: **HAZEL BUTLER** (529664) e-mail address available

VIVIEN PAXFORD (677432) e-mail address available

This group usually meets on the first MONDAY each month, in the large Woodmancote Village Hall at 2.00 pm

◆ **APRIL 1** A presentation by Rose Hubbard

“James Clifford – local Elizabethan entrepreneur.”

◆ **TUESDAY, MAY 7** A guided walk of **Tewkesbury alleyways** by Hazel Butler — a completely new walk. Max 15 people — if interested in going, please give name to Hazel or Vivien. Meet outside the Abbey at 2 pm.

LOCAL WALKS

Contact: **SHEILA BROCKMAN** (674736)

Deputy: **ROS FLAXMAN** (674284)

e-mail address available

Local walks starting at 2pm from junction of Millham Road and Station Road (Woodmancote end) on alternate FRIDAYS.

◆ **MAR 22 ; APR 5 ; APR 19 ; MAY 3 ; MAY 17**

LUNCHEONS

Contact: **MARY MOORE** (693793) (07970 685655)

e-mail address available

Deputy: **NAOMI ALMOR** (243150)

e-mail address available

Usually meets on the last THURSDAY of each month at 12.00 - for 12.30 pm

◆ **MARCH 28** Dumbleton Hall Hotel, Dumbleton, WR11 7TS

☎ 01386 881240 / 871249

◆ **APRIL 25** Cleeve Hill Golf Club, Wickfield Lane, Cleeve Hill, GL52 3PW

☎ 01242 672025

◆ **MAY 30** Restaurant No 1: GLOSCOL, Princess Elizabeth Way, GL51 7SJ

This will be a Greek themed menu.

MAHJONG

*** **New leader**

Joint contacts: **JEAN TIPPER** (466362)

e-mail address available

TERA GARDNER (674091)

e-mail address available

This group will meet on the 1st and 3rd THURSDAY of each month from **7.00 - 9.00 pm** in members' homes. (Timing may change, if necessary.)

◆ **MARCH 21 ; APRIL 4 ; APRIL 18 ; MAY 2 ; MAY 16**

MUSIC APPRECIATION

Contact: **STELLA CANEY** (676143)

e-mail address available

Deputy: **EILISH TALBOT**

Meets at 2.30 pm on 2nd WEDNESDAY of the month at a member's home.

◆ **APRIL 10 ; MAY 8**

NATURAL HISTORY

Contact: **JULIA HOUSE** (675056)

e-mail address available

Deputy: **EILISH TALBOT**

Usually on the 4th FRIDAY each month, meeting at Woodmancote Village Hall (for car sharing) at 10.0 am. This group is now closed.

◆ **MARCH 22** Joint meeting with Rural Visits group

10.15 am - 12.00 noon Cost: £3 including refreshments.

Venue— **Bishops Cleeve Parish Council Offices, Church Road.**

The talk will be given by Arthur Ball, a local Bird and Wild Life Enthusiast - about Dowdeswell Reservoir and Nature Reserve.

◆ **APRIL 26** Chedworth Nature Reserve

◆ **MAY 24** Lineover Wood

PATCHWORK & QUILTING

Contact: **VANESSA REYNOLDS** (675748)

e-mail address available

This group meets on the 3rd FRIDAY of the month at 10.0 am at Vanessa's home. For further information, please contact Vanessa.

◆ **APRIL 19 ; MAY 17**

PETANQUE

Contacts: **DAVE and TRICIA ATKINSON** (674169)

e-mail address available

The group plays at the bouledrome next to the Woodmancote Village Hall on the 3rd FRIDAY of the month at 10.30 am.

◆ **APRIL 19 ; MAY 17**

PHOTOGRAPHY

Contact: **GRAHAM FISHER** (579204)

e-mail address available

This group meets on the 2nd MONDAY of each month at 2.0 pm.

◆ **APRIL 8 ; MAY 13**

PLAY READING

Contact: **VIVIEN PAXFORD** (677432)

e-mail address available

Meets at a member's home on the last TUESDAY in the month at 2.30 pm.

◆ **MARCH 26 ; APRIL 30** This group is now full.

POETRY 1 - POETRY FOR PLEASURE

Contact: **KAY DUCK** (672474)

e-mail address available

Deputy: **HEATHER LEE** (676438)

e-mail address available

Meets on 2nd TUESDAY of the month at 10.30 am in a member's home.

◆ **APRIL 9** Andrew Marvell

◆ **MAY 14** John Keats

POETRY 2 - MORE POETRY FOR PLEASURE

Contact: **TRICIA ATKINSON** (674169)

e-mail address available

Meets on 4th WEDNESDAY of the month at 2.30 pm in a member's home.

◆ **MARCH 27 ; APRIL 24 ; MAY 22**

POETRY 3 - SHARING POETRY

Contact: **MARGUERITE HABGOOD** (678973)

e-mail address available

This group will meet on the 3rd THURSDAY of each month at 10.30 am in a member's home.

◆ **MARCH 21 ; APRIL 18 ; MAY 16**

RAILWAY AND CANAL STUDIES

Contact: **MICHAEL DAVIS** (674068)

e-mail address available

Deputy: **JOHN HUGHES** (679026)

e-mail address available

This group explores Gloucestershire's Industrial Heritage (— and usually meets on the 4th WEDNESDAY of the month.)

◆ **MARCH 27** Hereford & Gloucester Canal, Telford's Bridge at Over.

Meet at Woodmancote Village Hall at 9.45 am for car share.

◆ **APRIL 24** Provisionally arranged for the GWR at Toddington.

Members will be advised details nearer the time.

ROCK/BLUES BAND - "MU3AC"

*** See page 21 for GIG

Contact: **MIKE REYNOLDS** (675748)

e-mail address available

Usually meets on alternate MONDAYS from 10 am—1 pm at the Two Rivers Music Studio (Knightsbridge Business Centre).

◆ **MARCH 25 ; APRIL 1** Later dates tba

RAMBLERS

Contact: **LYNNE JACKSON** (678215)

Report - see page 20

e-mail address available

Deputy: **CHRISTINE ROBINSON** (679815)

e-mail address available

◆ **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3** **Leader: Maureen Downey** (675183)

4.25 mile easy circular walk from **Temple Guiting** to Ford and back.

Meet at Woodmancote Village Hall at 9.30 am to car share to the Car Park at Temple Guiting Cricket Club. Lunch venue to be decided.

◆ **THURSDAY, MAY 9** **Leaders: Fiona Lawro** (676905)
Liz Neeves (678599)

4 mile circular walk from the Quarry Car Park to Postlip Hall and around various tracks on **Cleeve Common**. Meet at Woodmancote Village Hall at 9.30 am to car share. Picnic lunch. (This walk was planned for Dec. 2018, but had to be cancelled because of bad weather.)

Extra details available from walks' leaders.

RURAL VISITS

Contact: **JOHN WALKER** (321728)

e-mail address available

Deputy: **CATHY THOMPSON** (676708)

e-mail address available

This group usually meets on the 3rd THURSDAY of each month.

◆ **FRIDAY, MARCH 22** - **JOINT MEETING with NATURAL HISTORY**
GROUP - see details on page 13

◆ **APRIL 18** Pilley Bridge Nature Reserve

Meet at Village Hall at 2pm ready to car share

◆ **MAY 16** Dowdeswell Reservoir

Meet at Village Hall at 2pm ready to car share

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Contact: **ALAN GREEN** (672964)

e-mail address available

This group usually meets on the 1st THURSDAY of each month at the new community hall in Stoke Orchard from 2.0 - 4.0 pm.

◆ **APRIL 4** The History of Electricity Supply (Part2)

Denis Fairmaner

◆ **MAY 2** Visit to **The Snow Factory at Ebley**

Celia Gordon-Smith

Details to follow!

Suggestions for speakers or topics /activities that you fancy are welcome.

[The charge will be £1.50 per meeting to cover hall hire & other expenses.]

SCRABBLE 1

Contact: **HILARY WRIGHT** (672318) e-mail address available

Deputy: **ROSEMARIE WEST** (581165) e-mail address available

Meets at 2.0 pm on the 1st THURSDAY of the month in a member's home.

◆ **APRIL 4 ; MAY 2** This group is now full.

SCRABBLE 2

Contact: **JUDE HOWLETT** (697589) e-mail address available

Deputy: **EILEEN HARWOOD** (672485) e-mail address available

This group will meet on the 3rd WEDNESDAY of each month at 2.0 pm, in a member's home.

◆ **MARCH 20 ; APRIL 18 ; MAY 16**

SINGING FOR FUN

Contact: **LIZ REILLY** (674253) e-mail address available

Meets on the 2nd FRIDAY of the month at the Methodist Church Hall, Bishop's Close at 10.30 am. This group is now full.

◆ **APRIL 12 ; MAY 10**

SPANISH BEGINNERS

Contact: **CHRISTINE ROBINSON** (679815) e-mail address available

This group will meet on the 1st and 3rd WEDNESDAY of each month from 2.0—3.30 pm at Christine's home (18 Station Road, Bishop's Cleeve).

◆ **MARCH 20 ; APRIL 3 ; APRIL 17 ; MAY 1 ; MAY 15**

This group is now full.

TABLE TENNIS

Joint contacts: **PHILIP WATSON** (673267) e-mail address available

JUNE HALL (675711) e-mail address available

This group will meet fortnightly on FRIDAYS, at Southam Village Hall, from 2.0 — 4.00 pm. **Please note:** Black soled shoes should not be worn.

◆ **MARCH 22 * ; MARCH 29 ; APRIL 12 ; APRIL 26 ; MAY 10**

*Extra date because cancellation on March 15th - Gold Cup day.

This group is now closed to new members.

GROUPS' REPORTS

GARDENING 1 GROUP

Wednesday, January 9th

We held a celebratory lunch to thank **Linda Coole** for coordinating the group for the past ten years. 44 members attended, bringing the most delicious food.

A good time was had by all. Linda was presented with a planted pot from Gotherington Nurseries and an NGS garden voucher.



Sue Weir gave a short speech thanking Linda and saying very tellingly “we all have our own memories of the various gardening group visits and activities. However without Linda organising the events, then those memories would not exist”.

A big thank you to Sue and her team for all their hard work organising such a lovely event.

Sheila Gardner

LOCAL HISTORY 2 GROUP

February 4th

We enjoyed a presentation by John Heathcott telling us about the **History of the Cotswolds** and the work of the voluntary wardens, teams of people who give their time and skills to keep this beautiful area's stiles and footpaths in good order for the rest of us to enjoy. It was enjoyable to see excellent photos of different areas, some familiar and others less so. There is always something new to learn and appreciate about all that is on our doorstep.

Hazel Butler

GARDENING 1 GROUP - now GARDEN VISITS GROUP

ROCOCO GARDENS , PAINSWICK

February 6

Eight members visited the Rococo Gardens, the weather was kind to us, a slight chill but otherwise sunny with no wind/rain. The gardens are famed for having one of the largest naturalistic plantings of snowdrops in the country, there were over 5 million snowdrops, although we did not count them, and parts of the garden especially down by the wooded area was a carpet of white, the snowdrops were stunning.



After a welcome cup of coffee we strolled around the gardens admiring not only the snowdrops but dark pink hellebores, daffodils slowly appearing and other bulbs/plants. The central area had been dug over with different size beds ready for planting fruit trees, a kitchen garden, grape vines, roses and 3 hens busy digging up the soil. There were several small buildings including a hermit's hut.

We took a break having a homemade lunch at the cafe which had been extended. After having another stroll through the gardens and the shop, we came home after having a wonderful day.

I want to thank everyone for their support over the years.

Linda Coole

GENERAL HISTORY GROUP

A History of the Fishing Industry - by Anthony Howlett

January

This excellent talk brought home to us how important fish has been from the earliest of times. Anthony informed us that there are 33,600 species of fish and 8,000 of shellfish. A fish is classed as a gill-bearing aquatic craniate animal that lacks limbs. We will take his word on that! Fishing dates back to the Cambrian period from 500,000 million years ago. Rather hard to take in but proven. This is a huge topic but here are a few facts and figures.

The earliest fishing hook found is 23,000 years old but through the ages many other methods have been used; for example, chemicals in the water to make the fish dozy and therefore easier to catch, nets, baskets, boats. Also “gill nets” so named as they were hung up like sheets and the fish got caught by their gills.

Roman mosaics have been found which depict the catching and curing of fish. And there is proof that the rivers of Egypt and India were full of fish. Amsterdam grew because of its fishing and there is a great rich cod trade around the coasts of America.

The 15th century Dutch developed a Herring Buss which became a blueprint for European fishing boats. We British developed the “Dogger” which used hooks.

The 19th and 20th century produced huge populations so there was great demand for fish as a food.

Brixham developed the Brixham trawler to go out into the Atlantic but as their fish stocks dried up they were forced to go up the east coast and so started the fishing industries in Hull and Grimsby.

Trawling came next and the 20th century was the advent of steam and larger trawling vessels.

During the war fishing boats were commissioned as mine sweepers and fitted with guns. Radar and advanced navigation came next and in the late 50's the diesel trawler was invented.

In the 1970's the Common Fisheries Policy was set up to control the cod wars of that decade and now we have the Super Trawler with freezing and processing on board. And now of course fishing has also become a sport. A potted history of a most interesting subject thanks to a speaker who really knew and obviously loved what he was talking about.

Pat Hope

THE DRAGON DODGER

We received an interesting talk from Michael Gillam titled The Dragon Dodger and the Chien Family, centred on how the lives of two families from opposite sides of the world became entwined. Michael is a distant relative to a Captain Samuel Cornell Plant, (the Dragon Dodger), a man honoured by the Chinese for his pioneering work in navigating the upper reaches of the mighty Yangtze river, (the Dragon), in 1900. A 50ft monument stands on the banks of the Yangtze, commemorating Captain Plant's achievements. Charles Chein was a Foreign Government representative in Sichuan Province who had four children with his English wife. Sadly the Chien children were orphaned, two taken into a local orphanage and two Clare and Isobel were adopted by Captain Plant and his wife Alice. Clare and Isobel were sadly orphaned once more on the death of both Captain Plant and his wife, whilst the family were returning to England. The two girls were then taken into care by a New Zealand Missionary Alice Moore who cared for them until she died in 1951. The two girls married and it was a descendant of theirs that like Mr Gillam decided to research their ancestry and thus the link was identified which formed the basis of this talk.

Ann Lewis

RAMBLING GROUP

January 10

John Hughes led 21 of us from **Woodmancote** to Butts Lane and the lower slopes of Nottingham Hill. It was almost freezing, but we warmed as splendid views across Cleeve Vale drew us towards the railway and **Gotherington**, where we followed village lanes to The Sabrina Way and Woolstone Hill Farm. We then turned for **Woolstone** Church, where the tower leans more than at Pisa. There were snowdrops and daffodils as we returned to Gotherington and young children all enthusiastically waved and shouted hello as we passed by.

We left the village and headed towards Bishops Cleeve, but crossed farm land on paths back to the railway and on to Butts Lane. We found sticks to use as primitive mud scrapers and cleaned our boots, which resembled snowshoes. With lighter step, we returned to Woodmancote Village Hall and some of us then lunched in the pleasant ambiance of The Apple Tree. Thank you John for an interesting walk, achieved without taking cars further than the Village Hall.

Neville Jackson

ROCK/BLUES BAND - "MU3AC"

A **Gig** will be held at the Newlands Park Sports & Country Club, Southam Lane on **May 17th** and all members of the U3A will be invited. Tickets will be free and a collection will be held in aid of the local charity **James Hopkins Trust**. As tickets are limited, they will be on a first come first serve basis - and are obtained locally from me. This will be promoted as a Dance night, so you will need your dancing shoes!



U3A
THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE
IN BISHOPS CLEEVE

Summer Gig - Tickets Free
17th May 2019 - 19:30
Cheltenham Rugby Club
Newlands Park, Southam Lane,
Nr. Bishops Cleeve, Cheltenham, GL52 3PE

MU3AC will be supported by "The Skiffleites",
an acoustic skiffle trio, who will be playing as you arrive.

Tickets from band members, or
e-mail nortcliffe@aaf.com

In aid of James Hopkins Trust
Donations on the night

Established in 1959 JHT provides care for babies and children up to the age of 5
who have a life limiting or life threatening condition while supporting their families.
JHT currently supports over 90 children in Gloucestershire. Since 1959 JHT has
helped well over 500 children and their families in every corner of Gloucestershire.

Celebrating 30 years
**JAMES HOPKINS
TRUST**

Mike Reynolds
(675748)

WOODMANCOTE VILLAGE HALL OPEN MEETING SEATING

What the attendance at the Open meeting in February (at which Edward Gillespie was our guest speaker) demonstrated is that we are getting close to the large hall's full seating capacity. We always have to be mindful of members' health and safety, so it's a slightly more than a theoretical possibility that at some point we may have to turn members away, once we have reached that maximum capacity. We count members in as they come through the entrance desk, so we know when we have reached that point. So please bear that in mind, and if you are particularly anxious to hear a guest speaker, then I would suggest that you arrive sooner rather than later, otherwise you could be one of that disappointed number. It's not something that we would readily do, but needs must.

In the meantime we continue the search for a larger local venue.

Keith Woodman

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

“An Interesting Small Garden is Possible”

Unfortunately there were no takers for my idea of opening some of our gardens this summer which was a shame, but undaunted, I am going to open mine! June is the best month for everything to be flowering away for my **Open Garden on 15th & 16th June from 10.30am to 5.0pm**. The side gate will be clearly arrowed. Details will be in the May ‘Clarion’ as a reminder and I look forward to welcoming lots of visitors. There is plenty of street parking.

Mercers Cottage, 5 Furlong Lane, Bishops Cleeve, GL52 8NJ.

Note: Could the gentleman who expressed interest before, please contact me to discuss further.

Sally Ferrers Tel: 679551

‘Women in Aviation’ Exhibition

Every weekend during May: 10.0am to 4.0pm

I am heading up a small team who are putting together a unique exhibition at **The Jet Age Museum**.

We have some amazing women speakers, a Tornado pilot, Air Traffic Control, ex Red Arrow, Cathay Pacific civil airline pilot – and lots more. There will also be static ‘Storyboards’ illustrating the many aspects of women in aviation, historically and currently. Emphasis will be on **Amy Johnson** who lived in Stoke Orchard and her epic solo flight to Australia in 1930 over uncharted territory.

Entry to the museum is free and there is an excellent café.

Please see the website for further information. You are welcome to contact me if you wish to know more about the exhibition.

Sally Ferrers

U3A COACH TRIP

to **Aston Pottery and Gardens, Aston, Oxfordshire**

<https://astonpottery.co.uk/>

WEDNESDAY, 19th JUNE, 2019

Refreshments - Pre order - Menu shown in website

Pick up points are:

09.00 — Bus Stop opposite Shipway Court, Station Road, Bishops Cleeve

09.05 — Denham Lay By, Woodmancote

Garden Tour £5.00 per person Yes No.....

Pottery demonstration £5-00 per person Yes No.....

Coach £10.00 per person.

Please give the following information to LINDA COOLE by 29th MAY 2019

I\we requireplaces @ £10 each, plus payment for any of the tours

Enclose a cheque for £..... (Cheques made payable to “Bishops Cleeve U3A social event”)

Name/s

Address

Postal Code Tel.....

Email

Pick up place required

Return to:

Miss Linda Coole, 29 Churchfields, Bishops Cleeve, GL52 8LL

Tel: 01242 674830

Please enclose a SAE if confirmation of booking is required.

Last booking or cancellation date: 29th May 2019.

Committee — 2018/19

Chairman	Keith Woodman	679301
Vice-Chairman	Alan Hazell	461371
Secretary	Sally Ferrers	679551
Treasurer	Lloyd Silverthorne	676665
Groups Co-ordinator	Vivien Paxford	677432
Membership Secretary	Mary Enderby	676993
Beacon Administrator	Philip Watson	673267
Clarion Editor	Rosemary Pullin	321983
Member	Ann Lewis	702573
Member	Valerie Hayward	07850 375641

www.cleeve-u3a.org.uk

Speakers' Secretary	Joan Hall	07740 902231
Webmaster	Jenny Mackelworth	602286
Refreshments Organiser	Sue Silverthorne	676665
Assistant Membership Secretary	Margaret Merry	262998
PA System Holder	Mike Reynolds	675748

NOTE: © For Copyright purposes – No items printed in this Newsletter to be copied or printed in any other publication without reference to the Editor and/or originator.

***** PLEASE NOTE *****

Copy for the next newsletter must be sent to ROSEMARY PULLIN

by SATURDAY, MAY 4th

clarion.u3a@gmail.com or Tel: 321983